

Message Text

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47

ACTION OPIC-06

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 EB-07 AID-05 COME-00 TRSE-00 L-03

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R 100836Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 504

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NDJAMENA 2879

E O 11652: NA

TAGS: BDIS, EFIN, PFOR, CD, US

SUBJ: AGRICOLA METALS TRANSFER PROBLEMS RAISED WITH
FOREIGN MINISTER

REF: NDJAMENA 2783; STATE 257751 (NOTAL)

1. IN MEETING WITH MINISTER FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION KAMOUQUE ON NOVEMBER 5, CHARGE STATED WISHED TO CALL TO MINISTER'S ATTENTION IN CAPACITY OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION MINISTER PROBLEMS ONE AMERICAN INVESTOR IN CHAD. CHARGE NOTED 1965 INVESTMENT AGREEMENT BETWEEN GOC AND USG, FACT THAT AGRICOLA ONLY US FIRM TO HAVE OBTAINED OPIC INSURANCE, AND SAID THAT AGRICOLA PRESIDENT LICHTENSTEIN HAD BROUGHT FIRM'S PROBLEMS TO ATTENTION OF EMB AND WAS CONSIDERING POSSIBILITY INVOKING OPIC INSURANCE. SKETCHED FOR KAMOUQUE AGRICOLA'S TWO OUTSTANDING PROBLEMS OF TRANSFER OF PROFITS AND FORMAL LEASE FOR GUM ARABIC PLANTATION. CHARGE CONTINUED THAT EMB WAS NOT PRESUMING JUDGE MERITS OF AGRICOLA'S CASE AT THIS TIME, BUT EMB WAS CONCERNED THAT AGRICOLA HAD RECEIVED NO ADEQUATE RESPONSE ITS PRESENTATIONS ALTHOUGH MATTERS OUTSTANDING SINCE MAY AND AGRICOLA PRESIDENT HAD SPENT FRUITLESS THREE WEEKS NDJAMENA. CHARGE HOPED THAT AMIABLE SETTLEMENT COULD BE WORKED OUT WHICH WOULD PROMOTE RATHER THAN HINDER FUTURE ECONOMIC RELATIONS AND TO THIS END WAS REQUESTING THAT AT RESPONSIBLE LEVEL SERIOUSLY DISCUSS ISSUES WITH AGRICOLA. CHARGE NOTED
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THAT PRESIDENT LICHTENSTEIN IN LAGOS UNTIL NOVEMBER 8 BUT HAD

EXPRESSED WILLINGNESS RETURN NDJAMENA IF NECESSARY AND THAT AGRICOLA HAD MANAGER RESIDENT IN NDJAMENA.

2. MINISTER KAMOUQUE, WHO APPEARED FAMILIAR WITH GENERAL OUTLINE AGRICOLA OPERATION BUT NOT WITH DETAILS OF PROBLEMS, NOTED DIFFICULTIES OF GOC IN MANAGING CHOATIC ECONOMIC LEGACY OF PREVIOUS REGIME BUT REAFFIRMED DESIRE OF NEW GOC TO STIMULATE ADDITIONAL PRIVATE AMERICAN INVESTMENT IN CHAD. HE PROMISED THEREFORE TO LOOK INTO MATTER AND SEE WHAT MIGHT BE DONE RESOLVE ISSUES ASAP.

3. COMMENT: MEETING WAS USEFUL IN REMINDING GOC AS MATTER RECORD OUR CONCERN WITH PROBLEMS US INVESTORS, BUT WHETHER IT WILL RESULT IN PROMPT AND FAVORABLE GOC ACTION REMAINS MOOT.

4. FOR LAGOS: PLEASE PASS SUBSTANCE ABOVE AGRICOLA METALS CORP PRESIDENT IMMANUEL LICHTENSTEIN WHO WILL CALL AT EMB. DWYER

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